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RCE
2814

**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/966,741
Filing Date	October 1, 2001
First Named Inventor	Kazuichiro ITONAGA
Group Art Unit	2814
Examiner Name	Tuan N. Quach
Attorney Docket Number	740819-658

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

- a. Previously submitted
 - i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____ (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
 - ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 - iii. Other _____
- b. Enclosed
 - i. Preliminary Amendment/Reply
 - ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - iv. Submission of Formal Drawings
 - v. Petition for ONE-month Extension of Time

2. **Miscellaneous**

- a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(l) required)
- b. Other _____

3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, **\$916.00**, additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 19-2380. A duplicate copy of this form is attached.
 - i. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
 - ii. Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
 - iii. Other _____
- b. Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed
- c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	<i>Donald R. Studebaker</i>	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	32,815
Signature	Donald R. Studebaker	Date	January 23, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION
[37 CFR 1.8(a)]

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO at _____, on _____.

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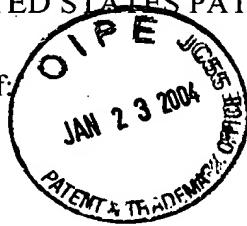
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Kazuichiro ITONAGA

Serial No. 09/966,741

Filed: October 1, 2001

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND
METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING
THE SAME

-) Group Art Unit: 2814
-) Examiner: Tuan N. Quach
-) Confirmation No. 3606
-) Date: January 23, 2004

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop **AFTER FINAL**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the present application and in connection with Applicant's Request for Continued Examination filed concurrently, please consider the amendments and remarks as follows.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 11 of this paper.

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